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Stelmach says he's through

▶ Premier announces he will step down before the next vote ◆ Delivers strong words to Wildrose ◆ Insiders have hinted ex-federal minister Jim Prentice may run



Premier Ed Stelmach has decided that 25 years in public office is enough and he doesn't want to face an election based on personality rather than politics.

"I say to you this as directly as I can—there is a profound danger that the next election campaign will focus on personality and U.S.-style, negative-attack politics that (would be) directed at me personally," Stelmach said.

"The danger is that it could allow for an extreme-right party to disguise itself as a moderate party by focusing on personality — on me. This type of U.S., wedge-style politics is coming into Canada and it comes at our peril."

Stelmach has been under increasing pressure as the Wildrose Alliance, led by Danielle Smith, has surged in public opinion polls.

Smith said she was befuddled by Stelmach's prediction.

"I'm not sure exactly what he's referring to," she said. "If you look at the way we've conducted ourselves as a party, we have stayed completely focused on the issues and we intend to continue staying focused on the issues."

The premier said he was approaching his cabinet ministers, asking them to commit to five more years in public life when he realized he didn't want to do that him-

"I have determined that after 25 years of public service, I am not prepared to serve another full term as premier," Stelmach said at a news conference at the provincial legislature. THE CANDIAN PRESS

CALGARIANS REACT, PAGE 4

State of the union

Obama plays to both sides

◆ Speech defends social programs, promotes fiscal responsibility ◆ Recovering congresswoman honoured with empty seat {page 8}

Attention all 'girly' men in Calgary

Schwarzenegger has something to say to you {page 3}



Crouching dad, amazing kids

Paul Sullivan pretends to be a tiger mom for 5 minutes {page 12}

Farewell, Thelwell

Stamps receiver hangs up the red helmet {page 26}



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Calgarians can have their say on fluoride

It's the public's turn to have its say in the ongoing debate on fluoride in Calgary's drinking water.

A hearing will be held today at the standing policy committee on utilities and environment following a vote by city council earlier this month. The meeting is scheduled to get underway at 9:30 a.m. in the council chambers.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi will not be in attendance for the hearing but numerous aldermen will.

Calgarians first voted to add fluoride to their water in 1989 during a fifth plebiscite on the matter. The measure was again approved by 55 per cent of voters in 1998.

METRO

Team bound for Moscow

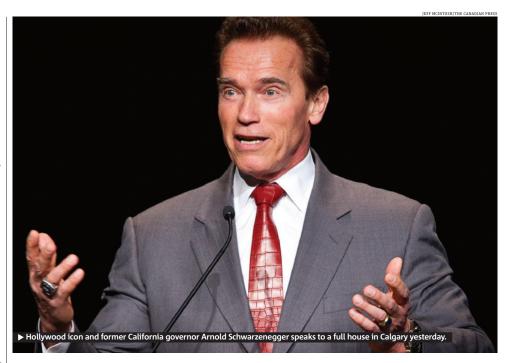
Members of Canada's national long-track speed-skating team — who train in Calgary — were scheduled to fly into Moscow's Domodedovo Airport today, just two days after a suicide bomb attack.

Questions emerged Monday about whether a Jan. 28-30 World Cup competition in Russia's capital would go ahead following the attack, which claimed the lives of 35 people.

But spokesperson Myléne Croteau said the team has been assured another attack is unlikely given heightened security in the city.

the city.

"We actually contacted all the athletes, coaches and support staff ... and let them know that if any of them are not comfortable with going to Moscow right now, we fully support their decision," Croteau said.



Arnold: Don't be 'a girly man'

Calgary the site of Schwarzenegger's first public speech since leaving California governor's office ▶ Sticks mainly to motivational script

Former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger largely stayed away from politics during his first public speech since leaving office, but he did acknowledge that he would have liked to run for president if the American Constitution had allowed it.

Schwarzenegger recently completed the maximum two terms allowed the governor of California, but can't run for the country's top job because he wasn't born in the U.S. He told more than 2,000 people who paid \$400 to hear him

Kennedy angle

- Schwarzenegger told the audience not to be afraid to work hard or take chances because "if you are afraid to fail you are a girly man."

 He also ioked that he has
- He also joked that he has something over other highprofile U.S. politicians who

speak in Calgary yesterday that the constitutional stricture saw his longtime publicist on the phone with him even before he stepped down. have come to speak in Canada — he is the only one to appear naked in a movie and is the only one who can say he "has slept with a Kennedy."

The bodybuilder-turned-action-star-turned-politician is married to Maria Shriver, whose mother was a Kennedy.

"You have nothing to do after you retire from the governorship, she said. I am going to book you some speeches," he joked. Schwarzenegger was asked

about the oilsands. He replied that he would like to have an opportunity to tour them — much like three U.S. senators and blockbuster Hollywood director James Cameron have done. "I love to explore different areas and things I don't know about, and that's one area I don't know much about," he said.

He did express a desire to see the U.S. less reliant on foreign oil, especially from the Middle East, saying, "It doesn't make any sense to rely on people who hate us." THE CANADIAN PRESS





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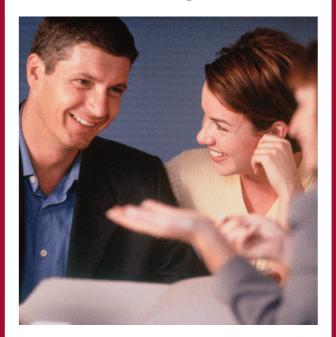
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04

metronews.ca WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011



Calgarians weigh in on Štelmach's exit

No timeline for Tory leadership race PC association waiting on premier to hand in official resignation papers

In the hours following yesterday's announcement that Premier Ed Stelmach will soon resign, Calgarians were busy mulling over what the move could mean for the future of Alberta's political landscape.

Taylor Vogle, 18, wel-comed the move. She said Stelmach has not lived up to the "progressive" label associated with his party.

"I see Calgary moving in a direction where we're rapidly expanding, and I find that Ed Stelmach is making our province go backwards," she said.

Vogle said she is trying to be receptive to other emerging parties ahead of casting her first ballot in a

The number of years Ed Stelmach has

provincial election.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said he was surprised by the decision.

served in public office.

"I've had the chance over the last few months to craft a really nice relationship with the premier," Nenshi said. "I have a lot of respect for him but I'm sure that I'll be able to work with his successor as well."

Political blogger and PC member Shane Byciuk said he was shocked.

"I didn't see that coming," he said. "I thought that after the last leadership last fall, when they gave him overwhelming support, I figured there was no reason for him to be taken down or replaced.'

On the other hand, Duane Bratt, chair of the department of political science at Mount Royal Unipartment political versity, said the resignation makes sense.

"This isn't surprising. When the party has been hit, running neck-and-neck in the polls, Stelmach has been trailing the party substantially. This is designed to save the party."

@ IEREMY NOLAIS AND KATIE TURNER

Twitter reaction

Here's what the Twittersphere told us about Premier Ed Stelmach's resignation:

- **@petercsillag** Overdue
- @jtraptow we have lost a great public servant in Premier Stelmach. Say what you will, but he has served honourably for 25 years
- **@paulpipes** good
- @jeremitis yay!
- @dwjones83 curious as to why now all of a sudden?
- @xbrav 6 months after he's gone, we'll forget he was ever in nower
- @ElysseB time 4 change o metro

History

A look at some of the victories and defeats of Premier Ed Stelmach.

- June 15, 1993 Stelmach elected to the legislature for Vegreville-Viking, which is now Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. He would go on to hold cabinet posts in Agriculture, Infrastructure, Transportation and Intergovernmental Affairs.
- Dec. 2, 2006 Stelmach wins the Progressive Conservative leadership to replace Ralph Klein.
- Sept. 18, 2007 Royalty report released. It calls on the province to take \$2 billion more annually from oil and gas companies to ensure Albertans are receiving a "fair share" from energy development.
- March 3, 2008 Stelmach leads the Tories to a huge

election victory, winning 72 of 83 seats. Turnout is the lowest in history.

- April 7, 2009 After years of multibillion-dollar surpluses. Alberta tables a \$4.7-billion deficit budget, the largest in the province's 103-year history.
- Jan. 4, 2010 MLAs Heather Forsyth and Rob Anderson leave the Tory caucus to join the Wildrose Alliance.
- Feb. 9, 2010 Alberta tables a budget with another \$4.7billion deficit projected.
- March 11, 2010 The Alberta government slashes the hike to its royalty take after oil companies move their investment to Saskatchewan and B.C.
- Jan. 25, 2011 Stelmach says he won't run in the next election and will resign soon as premier

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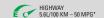
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ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

City gets big social housing assist

Canada's Economic Action Plan pledged \$2.2 million yesterday towards renovation and retrofit programs for 35 housing co-operatives and non-profit organizations in Alberta.

Ten recipients are

located in Calgary.

"Construction and renovation of social housing employs people quickly and makes a lasting improvement on the community," said MP Lee Richardson.

Built in the '60s, the

Built in the '60s, the southwest co-operative Whippletree West Housing was granted \$300,000 to replace windows. "It was a big improve-

"It was a big improve ment for everyone particulary safetywise," said resident Pat Tillotson, whose old windows did not lock.

• CAROLINA NOVOTNY

Gio scores homes for Habitat for Humanity

Already sporting the number 5 for the Flames, defenceman Mark Giordano launched the 5-for-5 partnership with Habitat for Humanity Calgary yesterday.

day.

The initiative aims to build five homes — one in the Calgary area and four in the developing world — in an effort to provide affordable housing both locally and globally.

"I am happy to be part of it," said Giordano, who recently met with the first family to partake in the program.

Kim and Carl of Cochrane were selected to receive a unit in a five-plex being built. They were chosen based on need — the family has moved nine times in the past year — and because of their history of volun-



teering and community activism.
"The family was so

"The family was so grateful and appreciative. They put in 500 hours of sweat equity — of manual labour — so you really see these people aren't looking for a handout," said Lisa Giordano, a longtime Habitat for Humanity volunteer. • CAROLINA NOVOTNY

Initiative engages homeless in art



Creativity brings 'possibility of change'

Louise Gallagher, spokesperson for the Drop-In Centre, said the program has helped to inspire clients and staff at the centre.

"When we provide opportunities for people to just start exploring themselves through creative endeavours, there is a possibility of change."

of change."
Gallagher was the driving force behind bringing the program to the Drop-In Centre.

KATIE TURNE

○ Events held at High Performance Rodeo **○** In/Visible ends tonight



KATIE TURNER CALGARY@METRONEWS CA

When Susan Frieda first saw the pamphlet for the Mustard Seed Drama Club, something piqued her interest.

After weeks of preparation, Frieda was one of several who performed monologues last week during The Opposite of Dismal — a High Performance Rodeo event.

"Sharing my story is enlightenment to me because it gives me kind of a hope for myself to keep on going," she said of the monologue she wrote about her father.

"I gained confidence in myself that I could stand in front of a whole crowd and look them in the face and tell them my story."

The Mustard Seed Drama Club is one of many groups associated with This is My City, an initiative that partners artists with homeless agencies in the city to take part in a wide variety of artistic endeavours.

Aviva Zimmerman, This is My City co-ordinator for High Performance Rodeo, said the initiative goes beyond the month-long festival.

This is My City

- This is My City began as a pilot project through the City of Calgary.
- It ran for a year between 2009 and 2010.
- Due to the success of the pilot project, it became an incorporated society in the fall of 2010.

"This wasn't about solving issues of poverty or homelessness, that's a huge complex issue with many, many facets to it," she said.

"This, I think, was about creating an opportunity for dialogue, for artistic expression and for true community collaboration."

Zimmermann said the program helps participants to explore their creativity, but the artists involved learn a lot as well.

"We've engaged with a population that is often not engaged and especially not with art," she said.

The last event of the In/Visible series will be a community conversation with the artists and participants involved in the project.

It runs from noon to 1 p.m. today at Cathedral Church of the Redeemer.



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KNOW YOUR GOALS BEFORE INVESTING

advice for investors.

"First and foremost, they have to determine what their goals and priorities are," says the Investment and Retirement Planner with RBC Wealth Management.

atricia Domingo has some words of Having goals and timelines will help people to determine their investor profile and develop the right asset mix for their portfolios. While people will generally have a mixture of cash, bonds, mutual funds and stocks in their portfolios, Domingo says the percentage allocations will also depend on people's risk tolerance and investment objectives.

Domingo says it is also beneficial that people have an understanding of their family income and tax situation because these two things may influence investment decisions in order to maximize possible tax deductions or minimize tax impact.

Determining all of this might seem like a challenging task for investors, but this is where the help of an RBC advisor proves invaluable.

"A good advisor will be able to translate a lot of that information for them," says Domingo.

She says that some traits of good advisors are that they are able to communicate in simple terms and ask good questions of investors to understand their investment needs. This includes looking at things from a holistic perspective.

"We focus on all aspects of one's life in order to then assess how financially we can help to enrich those areas," says Domingo. (For more information on this, visit rbc.com/yourfuture.)

For people who are comfortable with investing and are able to devote the necessary time to managing their portfolio, self-management is also an option.

"There are some great tools out there that will allow people to self-manage," says Domingo, but she cautions that she often sees people who don't end up being able to devote the time necessary to be successful at it.

"People need to be honest with themselves about whether they will have the time commitment - not only to monitor the investments - but to rebalance them and take away the emotion that you sometimes have to separate from investing," says Domingo.

With a vast amount of investment options out there, Domingo says it can be very helpful to have an advisor who can narrow down the selection for you. The advisor can also help to provide the planning advice and resources needed to reach your investment goals.



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Putting aside savings is one of the top three financial priorities of Canadians, according to a recent RBC poll. That being said, many Canadians find it challenging to put money aside.

Patricia Domingo, an Investment and Retirement Planner with RBC Wealth Management, says the key is to be realistic about what you are capable of saving and review that number regularly.

She suggests people reorganize their debts to pay off the ones with the highest amount of interest first to help free up cash flow.

Starting to save today, rather than later is also key. "The effect of compounding can be quite significant and lessen the burden down the road," says Domingo.

Obama reaches out to opponents

• U.S. president makes a direct appeal for bipartisan lawmaking in his State of the Union address

• We will move forward together or not at all,' he says

U.S. President Barack Obama called for unity with newly empowered Republicans in a State of the Union policy speech that laid the foundation for the second half of his presidential term and next year's fight for reelection.

Obama staked out territory in America's political centre. He defended programs dear to his Democratic base, including the federal Social Security pension program and his health-care overhaul.

But he also backed some top priorities of Republicans, who took control of the House of Representatives this month.

He called for cutting the corporate tax rate, freezing some federal spending, shaking up the federal bureaucracy and eliminating lawmakers' pet projects.

For the first time in his two-year presidency, Oba-



ma was appearing before a divided Congress. After November elections that Obama has described as a "shellacking," Republicans narrowed the Democratic advantage in the Senate as well as taking control of the House of Representatives.

Obama, who has rebounded in opinion polls in recent weeks, was looking to position himself above politics, even as both parties manoeuvre for advantage ahead of the 2012 presidential vote.

Obama said the American people are counting on their leaders to create jobs in the United States.

He focused on federal spending for education, innovation and infrastructure as ways the government can support America's foundation and help businesses create jobs for a generation.

He was pairing that with a call to reduce the federal debt and to make the government leaner.

The speech comes weeks after Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was seriously wounded in a shooting rampage in Arizona that killed six people.

In an attempt at unity, many Democratic and Republican lawmakers decided to break with tradition and sit together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Tunisia's uprising fuels Cairo protest

Yesterday's demonstration, the largest Egypt has seen for years, began peacefully, with police showing unusual restraint in what appeared to be a calculated strategy by the government to avoid further sullying the image of a security apparatus widely seen as little more than corrupt thugs in uniforms. Protesters cried out for President Hosni Mubarak to step down and for a solution to Egypt's poverty.

Facebook pushes its currency

30 Facebook gets a 30 per cent cut when developers use Credits to sell virtual goods and other items.

Facebook says it will begin requiring all games on its website to accept payments through its own currency system, Facebook

Credits. Developers will be able to use other currency systems, too, but they must accept Credits.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harper urges accountability with aid funds

Evidence of corruption in a billion-dollar aid program linked to a new maternal and child health initiative illustrates the need for clear accountability rules, the Canadian government said on the eve of a summit in Geneva.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrived in Switzerland late yesterday in advance of a one-day meeting to "kickstart" a United Nations commission that will set the template for tracking \$40 billion in maternal health spending.

Harper was named co-

chair of the committee, along with the president of Tanzania, last month.

Their work, which is to culminate in May with an accountability framework, has been cast into sharp relief by internal investigations of another public-private, UN-linked program, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

A special audit unit studied only a handful of grants under the 10-yearold program and turned up \$34 million in losses in some African nations. The



revelations prompted Sweden to freeze its contributions to the Geneva-based Global Fund, and the fund itself is withholding more than \$22 million in grants to Mali — one of Canada's preferred aid recipients.

Canada contributed \$540 million to the Global Fund last year — lifting Canada's total support to \$1.5 billion since the fund was created in 2001 — and Harper explicitly linked the latest cash to his government's maternal and child health initiative.

Maternal health

Canada initially said it would not fund family planning, then said it won't fund abortion services.

- Jill Sheffield is president of Women Deliver, a U.S.based organization with a pro-choice stance.
- "In the face of criticism, immense global pressure and a slew of politically sensitive issues, Canada has continued undaunted in its leadership on maternal health," says Sheffield.

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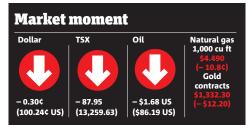
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off in higher investment and more jobs for Canada, but it will take the better part of a decade for all the benefits to kick in, says a report by a leading tax ex-

Corporate tax cuts will pay

The paper, from economist Jack Mintz, com-mends Ottawa for sticking to its guns in bringing down the corporate tax rate to 15 per cent next vear from 16.5

Mintz and co-author Duanjie Chen, both of the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary, said that taking the corporate rate to 15 per cent will result in a \$30.6-billion addition to the country's capital stock and generate 100,000 jobs.

However, they conceded it will take at least seven years for the full benefits to kick in.

The tax cuts, both this

year's 1.5-point chop and next year's, have become key attack points for opposition parties, particularly the Liberals and NDP.

With unemployment relatively high and the government mired in a deficit - anticipated at about \$45 billion this year - the opposition parties say this is not the time to offer profitable large corporations a further tax break.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reform

Tax expert Jack Mintz recommended that governments move to the next phase of tax reform by eliminating preferential treatment of some sectors, particularly manufacturing and

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tives - believe there's a large audience of heavy news consumers who will pay for a site that pulls to-

gether quality stories in one place and lays them out in a clean, ad-free

"Are they willing to pay

for content? Doubtful," On-go Inc. CEO Alex Kazim says. "But they would pay

for a better experience.

Someone is willing to pay \$2 for a cup of coffee at

part, free elsewhere.

news that is, for the most

Yet the people behind it — former eBay Inc. execu-

will pay



Google work force continues to grow

Google plans to hire more than 6,200 workers this year in the biggest expansion yet by the Internet's most profitable company. Google's work force grew by 23 per cent last year and some investors may be leery of expansion plans that could crimp earnings.



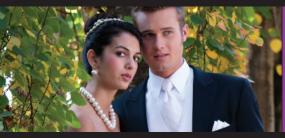
Starbucks when they could go to McDonald's and get it for \$1." The site, which launched yesterday, has financial backing from some of the country's biggest publishers. The New York Times Co., The Washington Post Co. and USA Today

publisher Gannett Co. have invested \$4 million each.

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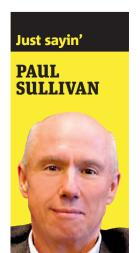
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BUTTING HEADS OVER CHILD REARING



If you're a parent, you probably know about Battle Hymn Of The Tiger Mother, the book by Yale Prof. Amy Chua that cheerfully condemns North American parenting practices as soft.

nd just as cheerfully, she celebrates the "Chinese" style piano-math drill torture of her own children as a successful program for overcoming adversity. That's if adversity can be characterized as placing second in a math competition.

The whole thing is gloriously controversial. On the one hand, you have armchair sociologists who nod sagely and point to Chua's parental rigour as proof the 21st century will belong to China. If it doesn't already.

On the other, you have my own kids, who snort and roll their eyes and say "as if" a lot.

Chua once threatened to torch her daughter's stuffed animals unless she learned to play a piece without flaws. Daughter played so diligently she ended up playing Carnegie Hall when she was just 14.

Chua was merciless. She made the kid sit on the bench for hours and play through dinner, even denying her water.

We had a piano at our place, too. Our kids sat on the bench for minutes, then took a dive, feigning epilepsy. After a couple of those sessions, the only person who spent any time around the piano was Douglas the cleaning person, who was not happy about the dust.

Once, one of Chua's daughters placed second in a math quiz. She made the poor kid do 2,000 math problems a night until she regained the lead.

My own kids have never done 2,000 math problems in their lives, combined, unless the math problem involves extracting \$20 bills from the Bank of Dad and successfully not giving back any change

By all accounts, Lulu and Sophia Chua-Rubenfeld are beautiful, well-adjusted young women who can leap tall buildings in a single bound while playing Flight Of The Bumblebee.

Dare I say it, but John David Sullivan and Ann Katherine Sullivan are, um, differently prodigious.

Chef Iron John can whip up the world's best Fisherman's

Stew while excelling at four increasingly difficult levels of Guitar Hero, while Annie is a modern-day Merlin, capable of plundering the secrets of the Tarot while adjusting your chakras for optimal energy.

They didn't exactly raise themselves, but they were full participants.

They're not concert masters, nuclear physicists or radiologists, but they're pretty amazing, and all we had to do was give up after five minutes of pretending to be Amy Chua.

So stay tuned for my upcoming parenting bestseller: Crouching Father, Belligerent Children.



Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDE

Musing about concerts



Letters

We asked: What was the best concert you saw in

@AllAgesShow: the best concert of 2010 was definitely Broken Social Scene. That show was indescribably awesome.

@CabanaCat: Markus Schulz and Cosmic Gate at Flames Central was by far the best concert of 2010! @solovei: Arcade Fire's show at the Saddledome in September! So much energy and an amazing setlist!

@sweetsolmom: Silversun Pickups. (opened for Muse, who were awesome as well).

@permission2fail: Arcade Fire.

@carlyjgallant: TOOL in

Picking favourite shows



#yeg July 7!
@treymills99: Definitely
Makeshift Innocence.
@sherry_cgy: Johnny Reid.
All 3 nights. Hands down
the best.

@zeefra: best show ever in 2010 @Skrillex @steveaoki #yyc

@mikeatqazam:

Hollerado/Free Energy at @pawnshoplive. Amazing energy, joined each other on stage, crowd joined for finale.

@velvetdress4u: Muse, for sure. @mz_kat: best concert i saw

in 2010 was Alice In Chains! the new lead singer is amazing! @kelseykruger: by far Carrie Underwood at Rexall Place

in December.

@beautifulflirt: best concert
2010 — drake!

Which film should win the Oscar for best picture? Why? Email calgaryletters @metronews.ca Twitter @metrocalgary

Metro has the right to edit letters and submissions.

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Advertising: $403-444-0136 \cdot adinfocalgary \triangle metronews.ca \cdot calgary_distribution \triangle metronews.ca$

Publisher Steve Shrout, Managing Editor Darren Krause, Advertising Sales Manager Chris Mackie, Distribution Manager Dave Mak

METRO CANADA: Group Publisher Bill McDonald, Editor-in-Chief Charlotte Empey, National Deputy Editor Fernando Carneiro, Asst. Managing Editor Tarin Elbert, Scene/Life Editor Dean Lisk, Asst. Managing Editor Amber Shortt, Art Director Laila Hakim, Business Ventures Director Tracy Day, National Sales Director Peter Bartrem, Interactive/Marketing Director Jodi Brown

Metro Minute with Wear It Pink Day

Calgarians committed to the fight against cancer are being encouraged to don their finest pink attire today. The second edition of national National Wear It Pink Day intends to bring attention to "staggering" cancer-related statistics. One in seven Canadian women will be diagnosed with breast or gynecologic cancers in their lifetime. Those look-

ing to take the event one step further can head online and find all the necessary items to host a "pink party." Participants are also encouraged to sign up for the annual Weekend To End Women's Cancer, which sees its proceeds benefit the Alberta Cancer Foundation. For more information about National Wear it Pink Day, visit end-cancer.ca. © METRO





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Quebec director Villeneuve has received an Oscar nomination for his searing family drama "Incendies.' The movie which follows twins as they travel to the Middle East to uncover their mother's horrific war-ravaged past - will compete for best foreign-language THE CANADIAN PRESS





The nominees are...

◆ The King's Speech up for 12 Academy Awards
 ◆ True Grit gets 10 nods
 ◆ Winter's Bone shocks field by landing in four high-profile categories



The King's Speech led this year's Academy Award nominations with 12, including Best Picture as well as Best Director for Tom Hooper, Best Actor for Colin Firth, Best Supporting Actor for Geoffrey Rush and Best Supporting Actress for Helena Bonham Carter. The Coen Brothers' update of True Grit received 10 nominations, including Best Picture and Best Actor for Jeff Bridges, who beat Firth in that category last year.

The other nominees for Best Picture are Black Swan, The Fighter, Inception, The Kids Are All Right, 127 Hours, The Social Network, Toy Story 3 and Winter's Bone. As expected, Golden Globe-winning actresses Natalie Portman and Annette Bening scored nominations for Best Actress and are considered the front-runners,



▶ Natalie Portman has been nominated for Best Actress for her role in Black Swan.

ahead of Nicole Kidman (Rabbit Hole), Jennifer Lawrence (Winter's Bone) and Michelle Williams (Blue Valentine). Competing against Firth and Bridges for Best Actor are Javier Bardem (Biutiful), Jesse Eisenberg (The Social Network) and James Franco (127 Hours).

co (127 Hours).

The real surprise this year came with the quiet independent film Winter's Bone, which landed nomi-

nations in four high-profile categories: Best Picture, Best Actress (Lawrence), Best Supporting Actor (John Hawkes) and Best Adapted Screenplay. The film about a stark life of poverty in the Ozarks, was a favorite at last year's Sundance Film Festival. David Fincher's The Social Network, which has won an impressive number of critics' association awards and the Gold-

en Globe for Best Picture — Drama, received eight nominations, including nods for Fincher, lead actor Eisenberg, screenwriter Aaron Sorkin and composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross.

With 10 films up for Best Picture a second year in a row, some experts look to the Best Director nominees to determine which five are the real front-runners for the top prize. This year, those five are Darren Aronofsky for Black Swan, David O. Russell for The Fighter, Tom Hooper for The King's Speech, David Fincher for The Social Network and Joel and Ethan Coen for True Grit. While Christopher Nolan's inventive Inception racked up eight including nominations, Best Picture and Best Origi nal Screenplay, Nolan was shut out of the directing

category.

The Academy Awards will be awarded in Hollywood on Feb. 27.

Nominees

The Academy Award nominations

BEST DIRECTOR
Darren Aronofsky,
Black Swan
David O. Russell,
The Fighter
Tom Hooper,
The King's Speech
David Fincher,
The Social Network
Joel and Ethan Coen,
The Coen,

BEST ACTOR Javier Bardem, Biutiful Jeff Bridges, True Grit Jesse Eisenberg, The Social Network Colin Firth, The King's Speech James Franco, 127 Hours

BEST ACTRESS
Annette Bening,
The Kids Are All Right
Nicole Kidman,
Rabbit Hole
Jennifer Lawrence,
Winter's Bone
Natalie Portman,
Black Swan
Michelle Williams,
Blue Valentine

■ BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR Christian Bale, The Fighter John Hawkes, Winter's Bone Jeremy Renner, The Town Mark Ruffalo, The Kids Are All Right Geoffrey Rush, The King's Speech

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Amy Adams, The Fighter Helena Bonham Carter, The King's Speech Melissa Leo, The Fighter Hailee Steinfeld, True Grit Jackie Weaver, Animal Kingdom

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

Mike Leigh, Another Year Scott Silver and Paul Tamasy & Eric Johnson, The Fighter Christopher Nolan, Inception Lisa Cholodenko & Stuart Blumberg, The Kids Are All Right David Seidler, The King's Speech

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Four no more

• Marvel killing off The Human Torch character in long running comic

Fifty years after cosmic rays transformed him into a man ablaze, Marvel Entertainment has extinguished the Human Torch's flame and his life, too, as the pop culture purveyor of super heroes and villains embarks on an ambitious story line that ends the Fantastic Four.

In the newest issue of one of the company's longest-running comic books, Johnny Storm's life is taken amid a massive battle that writer Jonathan Hickman has been scripting for a year-and-a-half. Illustrator Steve Epting did the art.

While Marvel has made no secret that a member of the quartet, which was introduced in August 1961, would die, exactly who among the group would fall has been a closely held secret, until the release yesterday of the latest issue, No. 587.

Hickman, along with his editor, Tom Brevoort, have been unsurprisingly mum on what the future may hold for the characters, but one thing is certain, the end is nigh for the Fantastic Four next month.

Brevoort, senior vicepresident for publishing at Marvel told The Associated Press that "588 is the final issue of the Fantastic Four. Beyond that, we're not ready to say exactly what we're doing. There won't be an issue 589."

All he would say about the future was that the various subplots and threads from the Fantastic Four that Hickman has written "will converge in a new thing that will be exciting and different and yet, very familiar and very much the same.'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



DVD releases



Nowhere Boy Genre: Drama Director: Sam Taylor-Wood Stars: Aaron Johnson. Kristin Scott Thomas

Anyone with even a cursory interest in the Beatles probably already knows the basics of Nowhere Boy: how John Lennon (Aaron Johnson) came from a broken home of early sadness and later tragedy. The film's main drama is not the approach of rock 'n'

roll destiny. Rather, it's the tug of war between the officious Mimi and the headstrong Julia. But it amounts to nothing more than another stroll down the Beatles' memory lane. PETER HOWELL



Genre: Drama Director: Robert Schwentke Stars: Helen Mirren, John Malkovich and Brian Cox

RED, which refers to a

supposed CIA acronym meaning "retired and ex-tremely dangerous," has few pretensions beyond showcasing some skilled mature actors at their deadpan best. It's likely to appeal more to fans of Morgan Freeman's The Bucket List than to partisans of Bruce Willis' Die Hard series. But with Helen Mirren, John Malkovich and Brian Cox joining them in the impressive cast just watching this gang is reason enough. OPETER HOWELL

Enter the Void Genre: Drama Director: Gaspar Noé Stars: Nathaniel Brown Enter the Void might

Buy it **** Rent it Borrow it ⊕⊕⊕ Yawn ⊕⊕|Don't bother ⊕

more accurately be deemed only partial provo-cation, since it's actually the most audience-friendly of Noé's three features the caveat being that the audience must be a mature one, not like the sexually stifled ninnies of America's MPAA film censor board.

Few recent films can match the visual intoxication of what Noé and cinematographer Benoit Debie have concocted here. PETER HOWELL



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Spears turns to boyfriend as agent

Though he stopped working for her last year, Jason Trawick is back as one of girlfriend Britney Spears' agents, according to Us Weekly.

Spears has resumed work with Trawick's agency, William Morris Endeavor, in anticipation of her new album. "Jason will be part of the team handling her career," a source says. "He will be handling acting endeavors, but there will be a big music department also on her account. Jason is someone the family trusts, they know he will make the best decisions for her and she feels comfortable with him." @ METRO

Brother worries: Madonna likes younger men

Says two 20-something boyfriends in a row 'could' start to look creepy' D But doesn't really expect change

Madonna's brother, Christopher Ciccone, is worried about the singer's choices in vounger boyfriends.
"I guess if she continues

to date all these much younger guys, it could start to look creepy," he tells Radar Online.

"She certainly isn't fol-lowing societal values, but then again my sister never has and probably never will either.'

Madonna is reportedly dating 24-year-old Brahim Zaibat, whom she began seeing after splitting with 24-year-old model Jesus Luz. • metro



Bullock prepares to step back from step-mom role

While Sandra Bullock has grown incredibly close to ex-husband Jesse James' daughter, Sunny, she's getting ready for James' new fiancée, Kat Von D, to enter the picture, according to Popeater.

"Sandra loves Sunny with all her heart and will always be in her life," a source says. "However, she also knows that [Sunny] will have a new mommy

soon and will do whatever she needs to do to make sure Jesse's new wife and Sunny have a great relationship even if that means taking a step away.'

Breaking up hard for Worthington

Avatar star Sam Worthington has reportedly split from his longtime girlfriend, makeup artist Natalie Mark, according to the Herald Sun.

"It's been in the cards for a while, I believe, says a source, who notes the couple hasn't been seen out together since October, And Worthington doesn't seem to be taking the split well. At a recent event in Los Angeles, he behaved aggressively, reportedly slamming his fist into a photo wall and screaming obscenities when asked to wait before walking the red carpet, according to Popeater. • METRO

Sex: Not as easy as it looks

Iames Franco admits he's previously videotaped himself having sex — and he insists it's given him more respect for actors who film intimate scenes for a living.

"Anybody who has made a home sex tape knows what feels best doesn't always look best," Franco tells Newsweek. "I remember when I was 19 doing that, and then watching it back and thinking, 'Oh, that looks horrible.' So you have a lot of respect for those actors in pornography, because they are really not just doing it, they're really selling it." ■ METRO

Celebrity tweets



Katy Perry [@katyperry] Dear will.I.am I

can NEVER nail that first "dirty bit" timing. Please help. Kthnxbye.



Russell Crowe [Arussell crowe] |

bit behind on this, but just saw Shutter Island.Leonardo's best work to date



Sarah Silverman



[@SarahK Silverman] Let's bring back calling people a METRO

Tila: No more Tequila for me

Tila Tequila insists she's sober and has turned over a new leaf, thanks to her doctors and therapists. "Last year, I was going through a really tough time," she tells Radar Online.

"I needed help. I was in denial." The reality star claims she woke up one day last year with bloody cuts on her arm caused by an alter-ego named Jane. "That's when I realized, OK, I have a problem," she savs. METRO







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life



Red wine and chocolate — it could be a double dose of decadence. Or maybe double the migraine afterwards. Wineries in the Niagara region in Ontario are inviting visitors to try wine-and-choco late pairings next month They include classic" combos like late harvest Vidal with white chocolate cranberry (offered at Lailey Vineyard). THE CANADIAN PRESS



• The city's famous Chinatown has been around for more than 100 years • The upcoming Chinese New Year makes it the perfect time to visit



Experience nına in San Francisco

Smack in the middle of San Chinatown, Francisco's Portsmouth Square is a kaleidoscope of sounds, smells and colours.

The cadence of Chinese dialects fills the air and splashes of red and gold glow from shop windows to banners strung across the narrow streets.

The rich smell of roast duck curls out of hole-inthe-wall eating places, blending with the faint smell of incense burning on modest shrines.

Hard to believe that only a few blocks away lie the designer boutiques and gourmet coffee shops of a cosmopolitan western city.

But that's what it means to visit San Francisco's Chinatown, a magic carpet of a destination that can take vou from West to East in zero to 60 steps.

"What's really signifi-

cant about San Francisco's Chinatown is that it has survived for over 100 years. Despite the hardships early on, the community is still here," says Sue Lee, executive director of the San Francisco-based Chinese Historical Society of Ameri-

And not just survived

but thrived, she adds. Although many of the original inhabitants have moved out to other areas of the city as well as suburbs, this is still a starting point for many new immigrants from Asia. "It's a shopping district; it's a residential neighbourhood and it's a tourist destination. And that's not by accident."

With the Year of the Rabbit beginning Thursday, Feb. 3, a visit to San Francisco's Chinatown is a great way to experience Chinese-American culture.

And the best way to experience Chinatown is by foot, so it's no surprise there are a number of walking tours available.

At the Chinese Culture Center, tours begin with a look at art exhibits at the centre, which blend contemporary and traditional works.

Then it's a short stroll to Portsmouth Square, where you will find dozens of residents playing mah jongg and other games or just sitting and talking.

San Francisco's Chinatown is the district that almost wasn't. After the 1906 earthquake, city leaders pressed for relocating the

Chinese to the city outskirts. But Chinatown businessmen came up with a plan to rebuild the area and make it a tourist attraction that would bring more money to the city. At the Great China Herb Compaherbalists carefully weigh out intriguing-looking bundles of this and that aimed at restoring vitality, restoring digestion and generally curing what ails you.

East, West, past, future – all here. "What's so fascinating about Chinatown,' says Lee, "is it's so multifac-

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Charters. Expect to pay \$500 per boat, usually a maximum of four anglers. for five hours of guided fishing. Includes tackle, licences and fish packaging. Eight-hour charters are \$800 per boat.

Weather. The average winter temperature in Victoria is 8.2 C, with the average

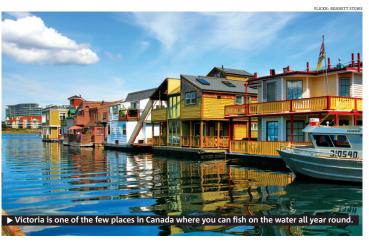
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Winter fishing in Victoria

• Why dig a hole in the ice when you can hit the seas instead? • Plenty of salmon to go around in wintertime

Most passionate Canadian anglers have to use an ice drill during these cold months. Sports fishing enthusiasts in Victoria, however, have it a lot easier.

Instead of huddling over a hole in a fishing shack, they get to catch salmon in the dead of winter in the form of the oddly named winter springs.

Winter springs are young chinook salmon. They stay close to Victoria during the winter months to feed on schools of herring, before heading out to sea where they become prized 25-kilogram-plus trophy salmon known as Tyee, King, or just chinook.

The herring hang out in the ocean close to Victoria during the winter before their run up the Gorge Waterway, which slices through the city, before they spawn in early spring.

A common sight in Victoria in late February and early March are Gorge bridges packed with an-glers trying to hook migrating herring, which are used for chinook bait later in the summer

But by attracting the young chinook, the herring also create a unique sport fishing opportunity at a traditionally slow time of the year for tourism.

"I always pump the win-ter fishery all summer long because it's such a strong, consistent fishery," said fishing guide Darren Beasley. "You're pretty much guaranteed your fish. I think I did 20 trips last February and I think I limited out on every trip."

Anglers are allowed to

keep two chinook each. Winter springs usually weigh between three and five kilograms each.

"It's right through from December to early spring where we have a really strong winter chinook fishery," said Beasley, 37. He describes himself as a third generation Vancouver Island fishing enthusiast, who has been in the sport fishing business for 17

Many Victoria salmon fishing charters operate out of the city's downtown Inner Harbour. The boats are moored steps from the

B.C. legislature and the salmon are only minutes awav.

'Six miles off Victoria in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, 15 minutes from Victoria harbour, and you're pounding salmon," Beasley said.

He said winter springs are full of life and fight

above their weight.

"You get a 10-pounder and it will fight like a 30pound summer fish," Beasley said. "They're an incredible fighting fish, pound for pound. That's why I always go after them."

Most anglers come to Vancouver Island during the summer in search of monster mature chinook topping 30 kilograms, but winter springs are a solid representative of what Beasley calls the most sought after salmon species in the Pacific.

"The size of fish this time of year; they're rock hard, bright red meat, a beautiful table fish. It probably doesn't get any better eating than these winter chinook."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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It's soup season

• Canadian winters are the perfect time to discover and create new soups



Ingredients:

Meatballs

- · 6 oz lean ground beef
- · 3 tbsp dry seasoned breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp barbecue sauce
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1/2 tsp dried basil
- 2 tbsp parmesan cheese

- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 1/2 tsp chopped garlic • 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper1/2 cup chopped carrots
- 3 1/2 cups beef (or chick-
- en) stock • 2 cups tomato sauce (or store-bought spaghetti sauce)
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 cup dried egg noodles
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese



ROSE REISMAN

This meatball and egg noodle soup is a complete meal in a bowl. Try using ground chicken or turkey instead of beef. (Add an ex-tra tablespoon of breadcrumbs if using poultry).

Preparation:

To make the meatballs, combine ground beef, breadcrumbs, barbecue sauce, egg, garlic, basil and 2 tbsp of parmesan cheese. Form into 1-inch meatballs (you should have enough to make 24 meatballs). Lightly coat a large, nonstick skillet with cooking spray and set over medium heat. Cook meatballs for about 5 minutes, turning occasionally or until browned. Set aside.

To make the soup, lightly coat a large nonstick pot with cooking spray, add oil and set over medium heat. Add onion and garlic and sauté for 5 minutes. Stir in green pepper and carrots and cook for 3 minutes. Stir in stock. tomato sauce, tomato

paste, chili powder and browned meatballs. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to low and simmer, covered, for 15 minutes.

- Stir in egg noodles and simmer for 5 minutes or until the noodles are tender. Serve the soup in bowls, and garnish with remaining parmesan cheese.
- Stir in the beans, tomato sauce, potato, stock, chili powder, basil and sugar. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat and cover. Simmer for 25 to 30 minutes or just until the potato is tender. Serve the chili in bowls, and garnish with cheddar and cilantro or parsely. ROSE REISMAN

Preparation:

- Spray a saucepan with cooking oil, add vegetable oil. Place over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, carrot, celery. Cook 8 minutes, stir occasionally.
- Add chicken stock, and peeled and diced potato. Bring to a boil then reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer until carrots and potatoes are tender.
- Purée red peppers in a food processor until smooth. Add half the soup mix and process until smooth. Season with black pepper and pour into a serving bowl. Rinse food processor. Repeat steps with yellow peppers and remaining soup.

Pour into another serv ing bowl.

Ladle some red pepper soup into one side of individual serving bowl. At the same time, ladle some yellow pepper soup into the other side of the bowl. Garnish with cilantro. ROSE REISMAN

Ingredients:

- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 tsp minced fresh garlic • 1 ½ cups chopped onion
- 1 1/4 cups chopped carrot
- ½ cup chopped celery
- · 4 cups chicken stock
- 1½ cups potato
- Ground black pepper
- 2 red bell peppers, 2 yel-
- low bell peppers, roasted ¼ cup chopped cilantro,
- dill or basil

Turkey and Sautéed Corn Chili

Ingredients:

- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 cups onion 1 cup canned corn
- 2 tsp chopped garlic
- 1/2 lb ground turkey 1 can (19 oz) red kidnev beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 ½ cups potato
- 2 1/2 cups tomato sauce
- 1 cup diced potato • 1/2 cup chicken stock
- 2 tsp chili powder
- 1 1/2 tsp dried basil • 1 tsp brown sugar
- 1/3 cup shredded aged white cheddar
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- Lightly coat a pot with etable oil. Place over medium heat. Add chopped onion and frequently. Stir in the Cook and stir until the corn is browned. Stir in 5 minutes, until the turkey is browned.

cooking spray, add vegsauté until soft, stirring drained corn and garlic. the turkey and cook for

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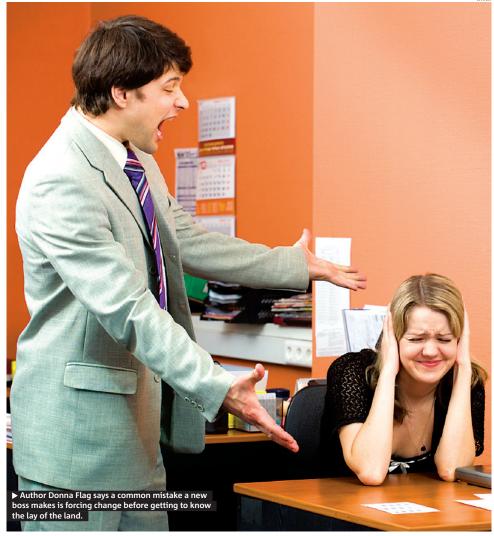






Be the boss that everyone brags about

You've finally landed the role of leader at your office ● How will you reign in respect from your new crew?





The move from a lowly cubicle to a boss's desk is a humble victory stroll for most. However, it can also be an all expenses paid power trip for that rare and loathsome brute that mutates into a monster just as quickly as the title changes.

Every career leap comes with a risk, and if you've elevated to a higher office, career counsellors note you're likely sandwiched between executives demanding insta-results – More sales! Faster turnaround! Prettier Power-Points! – and overworked underlings with full of apprehension.

The secret to rendering that transition as miserable as possible for every unfortunate involved is to let the stress bring forth your inner Bonaparte.

"People come in there with this façade that you're running things now, but you're not automatically going to have respect," warns Donna Flagg, author of Surviving Dreaded Conversations.

"You have to earn it by the virtues of your behaviour and by how you treat people."

She says the surest way to garner the esteem and cooperation of your workforce is "to be really open."

"In the first 90 days, what you really want to do is listen." career counselor

Barbara Frankel concurs.

"People are often afraid to voice their ideas, like they don't want to stick their necks out. "You need to set a climate where every idea is valued and important, even if it isn't acted upon."

But if every time you fish the office pool for fresh ideas you reel in empty hooks, "put a little structure behind it," Flagg recommends.

"Schedule on-boarding meetings where you give a half hour to every person and get a sense from them about what's going on," she suggests.

"You have to say, 'I want your honest opinion,' and then you have to behave in a way that doesn't punish them for giving it to you."

Too often, Frankel notes, a newly minted manager feels pressure to be the "ideas boss," the bubbling fountain wherein all novel thoughts are birthed.

"That closes you off to a lot of opportunities," Flagg cautions. Plus, she adds, it turns your workers into minions.

Instead, just take some time to field contributions from the corporate floor.

"The biggest mistake new bosses make is enacting change too quickly," Frankel emphasizes. "They come in wanting to prove themselves, they've heard of certain priorities that need to be addressed, and they go about it without getting a lay of the land."



mployees love to complain about their jobs.

They often perceive mistreatment at work as an invitation to a lawsuit or a human rights complaint.

This should come as no surprise since Canadian workplace laws are notoriously employee-friendly and provincial human

BE CAREFUL WITH COMPLAINTS AT WORK

rights tribunals often apply these laws in the complainant's favour.

Many companies feel these specialized tribunals represent yet another reason to avoid doing business in Canada.

However, one Ontario employee learned that not every grievance of unfairness at work leads to a successful human rights complaint.

complaint.

Donna Race was one the only females employed at an Oshawa auto assembly line. In 2006, she complained that her co-workers played the radio too loud and that the excessive noise affected her hearing. In response, she received threats

from her co-workers and one of them called her a "bitch"

Unsatisfied with the way her employer handled the situation, Race complained to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal, arguing she had been harassed because of her gender.

However, before presenting its case, Race's employer contested the Tribunal's jurisdiction to entertain the complaint, arguing it was not related to Race's gender and that her hearing loss was only temporary. Instead, it argued that Race's complaint was about the volume of a radio, something that a human rights tribunal has no authority to

decide.

Recently, the Tribunal agreed. Race failed to show that she was treated differently at work because of her gender or a disability. Although the comment her co-worker made was offside, it did not amount to discrimination.

The decision reiterates an important lesson for employees:

Do not bring a human rights complaint where there is only a marginal connection to discrimination. As a unionized employee, it should have been open to Race to file a grievance with her union. THE FULL ARTICLE CAN BE READ ON-LINE AT METRONEWS.CA.





Weird and wonderful 101s

"Investigating science, history, philosophy, or any discipline from a completely different perspective can be a valuable pedagogical approach in getting students to think outside of the box, and engaging them in forms of inquiry and investigation can be extremely useful in their careers and lives after university."

DR. PETER J. RICKETTS, PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC),
CARLETON UNIVERSITY

University can be a very structured experience, but a fun elective can add pizzazz to any drab schedule
 Metro did a cross-Canada search for four of the most unique elective courses our country has to offer



1

Bottoms up!

Sociable! Alcohol has long played a role in students' lives and the Social History of Alcohol at Carleton University looks at the role alcohol has played in western society from ancient times to the present. Temperance movements – social movements pushing for reduced alcohol consumption – are also examined.



2

Hey Jude, am I in the right class?

For Beatle lovers (and not of the Volkswagen variety), the University of Calgary offers The Beatles, a 10-week multimedia interactive continuing education course that examines the music and lyrics of The Fab Four, with a focus on the height of Beatlemania during the 1960s.



3

If I don't ace this course I'll die!

More than one of life's certainties, Death is a religious studies course offered at Saint Mary's University. Some of the topics examined include how death is perceived across different religions, what happens after one dies and how death has become taboo in today's society.



4

It cuts like a knife

For the history buff interested in the effect violence has had on various societies, Capilano University in Vancouver offers a history course called Murder and Mayhem: Selected Topics. The course looks at "how violence has shaped various societies' political, social, economic, religious and intellectual goals and beliefs," says its academic calendar description.

RICHARD WOODBURY



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sports

Flames preview

Flames 8 p.m. TV: Sportsnet Radio: FAN 960



The Blues (22-19-7) are winless in three St. Louis needs to aet its power play going. It's 25th in the league and was 0-for-3 in their last game against Colorado.



The Flames (23-21-6) are on a roll, having dispatched Dallas, Vancouver and Nashville in their last three outings. After a rocky patch, Miikka Kiprusoff has been solid in goal. Calgary is 9-3-3 in its last 15 games. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Thelwell ends his long run in CFL



Receiver played 10 seasons in league, won a Grey Cup with Stamps

Calgary Stampeders receiver Ryan Thelwell has announced his retirement.

The 37-year-old London, Ont., native played for the B.C. Lions and Calgary dur-

ing his 10-year CFL career. He plans to become an account manager with a management group.

"It's been an amazing ride," said Thelwell. "I'm going to miss the game. It's more about the people I've

met along the way.

"You just never think it's going to come to an end. My mind still thinks I can play, but my body is saying

no." Thelwell won Grey Cups with the Lions in 2006 and the Stampeders in 2008.

He completes his career with 441 catches for 6,728 yards and 39 touchdowns.

"The season he had in 2008 was unbelievable for us," said Stampeders coach and general manager John Hufnagel. "If we needed a first-down catch, Ryan Thelwell was the guy getting it done for us. Truly we would not have accomplished what we did that year without Ryan's play."

Thelwell said his Grey

Ticats' home

Hamilton city council has backed a renovated Ivor Wynne Stadium as the city's preferred option for the 2015 Pan American Games

The renovated stadium would be used for the Pan Am Games and serve as the new home for the CFL's Tiger-Cats.

Cup championships are among his best memories, but not the best ones.

"They are very important moments in my life, but for me an important moment and something I'll always remember was the birth of my first daughter, because we were actually on the road in Montreal when Liz went into labour," he said. "I got to listen in, the whole thing on the phone. I was so excited and so focused on what was going on over the phone that I didn't realize I'd locked myself out of my (hotel) room in my underwear.

"I'll always remember that." THE CANADIAN PRESS



Regardless of whether Calgary's drive for the playoffs has legs to make it past the Feb. 28 trade deadline, it's in the best interests of the franchise to trade reliable and loyal Robyn Reaehr.

long with Jarome Iginla, no Flame has been as much of a leader on the ice, in the dressing room and throughout the community in the past decade as Regehr. But because Calgary is one of

the oldest teams in the league and middling in the standings at best, it needs to consider trading its most marketable assets as it enters a rebuilding phase.

Think what you want about hanging on to Iginla and Miikka Kiprusoff into their mid-30s through this rebuilding phase — I say ▶ Robin Rege consider trade offers for

them as well - dealing Regehr is a nobrainer for several reasons.

First, his game has slipped from his once lofty standards. He's susceptible to getting beat wide, his skating has lost a step and he has become prone to occasional giveaways in his own end. I'm not saying he has turned into lame-brained Dion Phaneuf, but I think we've all noticed he's not the same premiere defen-

sive defenceman he used to be. Second, the game has evolved considerably since the 2004-05 lockout. Defencemen are expected to be mobile and proficient with the puck, to provide a second wave of attack when forwards are covered or thwarted. Regehr's game is strictly stay at home.

Third, the Flames top 4 highest-paid blue-liners combine for \$17 million, sixth most in the league. That's fine if the team

is a Cup contender like Detroit (\$19 million), Philadelphia (\$18.6 million) and Chicago (\$19.7 million), but isn't fiscally responsible if it's a pretender. Dallas, the Rangers, Nashville and Colorado have top 4 defencemen totalling less than \$11 million in payroll.

Fourth, the Flames have to start making room for their in-the-system defenceman.

With Jay Bouwmeester, Mark Giordano and Cory Sarich already at \$14.3 million combined next year, Calgary needs cheap alternatives at four, five, six and seven. Adam Pardy and Brendan Mikkelson look solid in support roles on the blue-line. Tim Erixon and T.J. Brodie are excellent bluechip prospects, and it's next year or bust for 2005 first-rounder Matt Pelech.

I'm loathe to say there's no room for 31-year-old Regehr next season, but if he can secure a first-round pick and/or prospect at the trade deadline, it would be backward thinking not to make that

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GΑ	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	50	33	12	2	3	174	130	71	16-7-0-2	17-5-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
d-Tampa Bay	51	31	15	3	2	154	154	67	16-4-1-1	15-11-2-1	7-3-0-0	W5
d-Boston	49	27	15	2	5	150	111	61	12-9-1-2	15-6-1-3	6-3-1-0	L1
Pittsburgh	50	31	15	2	2	154	114	66	17-9-1-0	14-6-1-2	6-3-0-1	W2
Washington	50	27	14	5	4	140	128	63	16-5-2-4	11-9-3-0	4-2-3-1	L1
NY Rangers	52	29	20	2	1	148	126	61	12-11-1-1	17-9-1-0	5-5-0-0	L1
Montreal	50	27	18	4	1	130	123	59	16-6-3-1	11-12-1-0	6-2-1-1	L2
Atlanta	51	23	19	3	6	151	166	55	11-9-1-4	12-10-2-2	3-4-1-2	L3
Carolina	49	24	19	2	4	149	153	54	13-8-1-1	11-11-1-3	6-4-0-0	W1
Buffalo	49	23	21	5	0	137	144	51	11-12-1-0	12-9-4-0	7-3-0-0	W2
Florida	48	22	21	2	3	130	129	49	11-8-2-3	11-13-0-0	4-3-1-2	W1
Toronto	49	19	25	2	3	124	153	43	10-11-2-2	9-14-0-1	4-5-0-1	L3
Ottawa	50	17	25	5	3	108	160	42	9-14-2-2	8-11-3-1	1-6-1-2	L6
NY Islanders	48	15	26	3	4	117	158	37	8-11-1-3	7-15-2-1	3-6-0-1	L2
New Jersey	48	16	29	2	1	100	143	35	9-13-1-1	7-16-0-1	6-3-1-0	W4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GΑ	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	49	30	10	4	5	163	120	69	16-3-1-4	14-7-3-1	4-2-1-3	W1
d-Detroit	48	29	13	4	2	163	142	64	14-6-3-1	15-7-1-1	5-4-0-1	L1
d-Dallas	49	29	15	1	4	144	136	63	15-6-1-3	14-9-0-1	7-2-0-1	L2
Nashville	49	27	16	4	2	133	117	60	11-4-3-2	16-12-1-0	7-3-0-0	L1
Anaheim	52	28	20	2	2	140	146	60	17-7-0-1	11-13-2-1	7-3-0-0	W2
Phoenix	50	24	17	6	3	144	143	57	10-9-3-2	14-8-3-1	5-4-0-1	L2
Chicago	50	26	20	2	2	157	139	56	16-13-0-0	10-7-2-2	6-3-0-1	L2
Colorado	49	25	18	6	0	159	160	56	14-10-3-0	11-8-3-0	5-4-1-0	W1
San Jose	49	25	19	4	1	137	135	55	12-10-2-1	13-9-2-0	4-6-0-0	W4
Minnesota	49	25	19	1	4	130	134	55	11-11-0-2	14-8-1-2	6-4-0-0	W1
Los Angeles	49	26	22	1	0	140	122	53	16-9-1-0	10-13-0-0	4-6-0-0	W2
Calgary	50	23	21	2	4	140	151	52	13-9-0-1	10-12-2-2	5-2-1-2	W3
St. Louis	48	22	19	3	4	129	142	51	15-8-1-2	7-11-2-2	2-6-1-1	L3
Columbus	49	23	21	3	2	130	152	51	12-11-0-1	11-10-3-1	3-5-1-1	L1
Edmonton	48	15	25	1	7	121	165	38	7-13-1-3	8-12-1-3	3-6-0-1	W1

Last night's results

Edmonton 4 Phoenix 3 Buffalo 3 Ottawa 2 (OT) Philadelphia 5 Montreal 2 Finadeupina 3 wontear 2 Tampa Bay 2 Toronto 0 Anaheim 3 Columbus 2 Florida 4 N.Y. Rangers 3 Minnesota 4 Chicago 2 Pittsburgh 1 N.Y. Islanders 0 Monday's results Calgary 3 Nashville 1 Vancouver 7 Dallas 1 Carolina 6 Toronto 4 Colorado 4 St. Louis 3

N.Y. Rangers 2 Washington 1 (SO) Tonight's games All Times Eastern

Los Angeles 2 Boston 0

All Times Eastern Florida at Boston, 7 p.m. Carolina at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m. Washington at Atlanta, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Detroit, 7 p.m. Edmonton at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. Phoenix at Colorado, 9 p.m. St. Louis at Calgary, 10 p.m. Nashville at Vancouver, 10 p.m. San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

2:31, Desharnais Mtl (slashing) 8:48, Montre-al bench (too many men; served by Deshar-nais) 15:11, Meszaros Pha (slashing) 19:43. Third Period

o. Montreal, Datrice 9 w(meth, Halmitz), 15:17

7. Philadelphia, Briere 26 (Pronger) 19:35 (en)

Penatities — Nodl Pha (slashing) 5:48, Pronger

Pha (roughing), 7:51, Pouliot Mit (interference), Pronger Pha (roughing), Carcillo Pha

(misconduct) 11:24, Hartnell Pha (boarding)

13:13, Meszaros Pha (slashing) 19:48.

Shots on goal by

Material

Shots on goal by
Montreal 9 15 7—31
Philadelphia 10 16 9—35
Goal — Montreal: Price (L,24-16-5); Philadelphia: Bobrovsky (W,21-6-3).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Montreal: 0-7;
Philadelphia: 3-7
Att.—19,878 (19,537) at Philadelphia.

First Period
1. Tampa Bay, Gagne 9 (Hedman, Purcell) 5:11
2. Tampa Bay, Purcell 8 (Clark, Bergenheim)

12:44(pp)
Penalties — Kessel Tor (slashing) 10:53,
Grabovski Tor (roughing) 14:33, Kaberle Tor
(hooking) 17:33.
Second Period — No Scoring.

Penalties — Kaberle Tor (tripping) 14:29, Gagne TB (hooking) 16:02, MacArthur Tor, Downie TB (unsportsmanlike conduct) 19:19. Third Period — No Scoring. Penalties — MacArthur Tor (tripping) 1:53,

Armstrong Tor (fighting), Downie TB (instig tor, fighting, misconduct; served by Purcell)

Tampa Bay 17 4 10-21 Goal Toronto: Reimer (L,4-3-t); Tampa Bay: Roloson (W,13-16-1). Power plays (goals-chances) — Toronto: 0-2; Tampa Bay: 1-5. Att. — 14,335 (19,758) at Tampa, Fla.

LIGHTNING 2, LEAFS O

6. Montreal, Darche 9 (Moen, Hamrlik) 15:17

OILERS 4, COYOTES 3

First Period
1. Phoenix, Upshall 13 (Yandle, Stempniak)
5:27 (pp)
Penalties — Horcoff Edm (hooking) 4:57, Hall

Edm (tripping) 15:32.

Second Period

2. Phoenix, Turris 8 (Ra.Whitney, Yandle) 1:54

3. Edmonton, Jacques 3 (Stortini, Foster) 7:11

Penalty — Korpikoski Pho (tripping) 15:48.

Third Period

4. Edmonton, Hall 16 (Horcoff, Petry) 2:56 (pp)

 Edmonton, Omark 3 (Gagner, Paajarvi) 4:08
 Phoenix, Upshall 14 (Doan, Turris) 8:29 7. Edmonton, Penner 15 (Hall, Horcoff) 19:38
Penalties — Hanzal Pho (interference) 1:36
Bissonnette Pho (high-sticking) 5:06, Peckham Edm (slashing) 19:49.
Shots on goal by

Shots on goal by Edmonton 9 14 12—35 Phoenix 9 10 8—27 Goal — Edmonton: Dubnyk (W,5-4-6); Phoenix: Bryzgalov (1,18-12-6). Power plays (goals-chances) — Edmonton: 1-3; Phoenix: 1-3. Att. — 10,057 (17,135) at Glendale, Ariz.

FLYERS 5, CANADIENS 2

First Period
1. Philadelphia, Carter 23 (Richards, Pronger)

17:42 (pp)
2. Philadelphia, Timonen 3 (Pronger, Richards)

2. Philadelphia, I Ilmonen 3 (Pronger, Kichards). 18:45 (pp) Penattles — Gomez Mtl (cross-checking), Car-cillo Pha (roughing) 3:33, Zherdev Pha (slash-ing) 7:23, Kostitsyn Mtl (slashing) 16:03, Spacek Mtl (holding) 17:14, Subban Mtl (slashing) 17:34.

Second Period

3etoila Periodo 3. Philadelphia, Carcillo 3 (Pronger) 0:23 4. Montreal, Deshamais 3 (Gill, Darche) 12:43 5. Philadelphia, Giroux 19 (Hartnell, Briere) 16:52 (pp)
Penalties — O'Donnell Pha (interference)

SABRES 3. SENATORS 2 (OT)

2. Buffalo, Byron 1 (Ennis, Stafford) 10:05 3. Buffalo, Hecht 8 (Myers, Vanek) 15:49 3. Buffalo, Hecht 8 (Myers, Vanek) 15:49
Penalties – Karlsson Ott (tripping) 5:02,
Gerbe Buf (roughing) 6:57.
Second Period – No Scoring,
Penalty – Stafford Buf (hooking) 14:52.
Third Period
4. Ottawa, Gonchar 6 (Karlsson, Fisher) 13:56

(pp)
Penalties — Myers Buf (cross-checking) 1:22,
Miller Buf (tripping; served by Ennis) 12:35.

Overtime 5. Buffalo, Morrisonn 1 (Vanek) 1:59

Penalties — None. Shots on goal by Buffalo Ottawa
 Shots on goal by
 Euffalo
 15
 6
 2
 2-25

 Ottawa
 12
 11
 6
 0-29

 Goal – Buffalo: Millier (W,21-14-47); Ottawa: T-lioit (L,12-17-7). Power plays (goals-chances)-Buffalo: 0-1; Ottawa: 1-4.
 Attendance – 18,990 (19,153) ay Ottawa.

LATE MONDAY

FLAMES 3, PREDATORS 1

TIEDATION 10.1014 1. Calgary, Glencross 12 (Stajan, Hagman) 10.14. Penalties – Suter Nash (slashing) 2:33, Halis-chuk Nash (hooking) 7:49, Giordano Cal (hook-ing) 11:57, Glencross Cal (slashing) 17:44. Second Period

Second Period

2. Nashville, Legwand 7 (Wilson, Ward) 10:32
3. Calgary, Iginla 21 (Staian, Tanguay) 13:01 (pp)
Penalties — Legwand Mash (hooking) 5:03,
Sarich (al (cross-checking) 10:50, Ward Nash
(high-sticking) 12:44, Mashville bench (too
many men; served by Hornqvist) 14:20,
Bouymeester (al (hooking) 18:44,
Third Period

4. Calrary Morrisco 9 (Treuser, Circles)

4. Calgary, Morrison 8 (Tanguay, Giordano) 14:08 (pp)

Penalties — Sarich Cal (tripping) 7:55, Smithson Nash (hooking) 13:31.

Shots
Nashville
6 7 11–2/

Shots
Nashville 6 7 11–24
Calgary 8 14 5–27
Goal – Nashville: Rinne (L,17-12-4): Calgary:
Kiprusoff (W,19-18-2). Power plays (goals-chances) – Nashville: 0-5; Calgary: 2-6.
Att. – 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

CANUCKS 7, STARS 1

First Period

1. Vancouver, Burrows 10 (D.Sedin, Ballard) 1:18

2. Dallas, Richards 20 (Neal) 7:19

3. Vancouver, Kesler 27 (Edler, H.Sedin) 9:05 (pp)

4. Vancouver, Ehrhoff 8 (H.Sedin, D.Sedin)

4. Vancouver, Enrirol T of th. Sedin, J. Sedin)
10:26 (pp)
Penalties — Benn Dal (high-sticking) 8:17,
Penalties — Benn Dal (high-sticking) 8:17,
Burish Dal, Bielsca Vcr (unsportsmanilike conduct) 9:13, Fistric Dal (tripping) 9:41, Daley
Dal (hooking) 17:20.
Second Period
5. Vancouver, Samuelsson 9 (Kesler, Raymond) 3:59
6. Vancouver, H. Sedin, 11 (Volpatti, Torres) 11:28
Penalties — Tambellini Vcr (interference) 7:11,
Burrows Vcr (holding stick) 13:27, Morrow Dal
(charging) 14:48, Bielsca Vcr (Interference)
15:27, Morrow Vcr (goaltender interference)
17:28, Hambius Vcr (tripping) 19:56.

15:27, Morrow Vcr (goaltender interference) 17:28, Hamhuis Vcr (tripping) 19:56. Third Period 7. Vancouver, Raymond 9 (Edler, Samuelsson) 11:05 8. Vancouver, Hamhuis 4 (Tambellini, Tanev)

13:12 (pp)
Penalties — Ribiero Dal, Hamhuis Vcr (double roughing) 4:59, Burish Dal (roughing, misconduct), Barch Dal, Ballard Vcr (roughing), Burrows Vcr (misconduct) 12:16, Ott Dal (highsticking) 19:55

STICKING) 19:55.				
Shots				
Dallas	10	7	9	-26
Vancouver	12	12	12	-36
Goal (shots-saves) — Dall	las: L	.ehtc	nen (L,21-
11-5) (33-27), Raycroft (1	3:12	thir	d)(3-3	3);
Vancouver: Luongo (W,22	-8-7). Po	wer pl	avs
(goals-chances) — Dallas:	0-4	Van	couve	r: 3-7.
Attendance — 18,860 (18,	810	at V	ancou	ıver.

SCORING LEADERS

29 34 36	
	66
36	
	63
50	61
40	60
37	57
36	52
26	51
32	51
26	49
5	

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

WUDNESDAY'S EARLY RESULIS WOMEN Singles — Quarter-finals Vera Zvonareva (2), Russia, def. Petra Kvit (25), Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4, Kim Clijsters (3), Belgium, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (12), Poland, 6-3, 7-6 (4). Poubles — Somifinals

Doubles – Semifinals Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, and Maria Kir-ilenko (12), Russia, def. Kveta Peschke, Czech Republic, and Katarina Srebotnik (2), Slovenia,

6-2, 6-4.

Doubles — Quarter-finals

Mahesh Bhupathi and Leander Paes (3), India, def. Michael Llodra, France, and Nenad Zimonjic

ermany, 6-2, 6-4.

(1), Italy, def. Natalie Grandin, South Africa, and Vladimira Uhlirova, Czech Republic, 6-0, 6-3.

Berdych (6), Czech Republic, 6-1, 7-6 (5), 6-1.
MIXED DOUBLES Second Round

Katarina Srebotnik, Slovenia, and Daniel

Singles – Second Round
Eugenie Bouchard (14), Montreal, def. Tian
Ran, China, 6-1, 6-2.
Nastja Kolar (16), Slovenia, def. Jang Su
Jeons, South Korea, 6-2, 2-6, 9-7.
Doubles – Second Round
Denisa Allertova and Klara Fablikova, Czech
Republic, def. Eugenie Bouchard, Montreal,
and Monica Puig (2), Puerto Rico, 6-0, 6-3.

SOCCER

At Doha Qatar Australia 6 Uzbekistan 0 Japan 2 South Korea 2 (Japan advances 3-0 on penalty kicks)

CARLING CUP SECOND LEG

Arsenal 3 Ipswich 0
(Arsenal advances on 3-1 aggregate)

Blackpool 2 Manchester United 3 Wigan 1 Aston Villa 2

GERMANY

GERMAN CUP

ITALY

At Melbourne, Australia WEDNESDAY'S EARLY RESULTS

(8), Serbia, 6-4, 6-4. TUESDAY'S RESULTS

WOMEN
Singles — Quarter-finals
Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def.
Francesca Schiavone (6), Italy, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Li Na (9), China, def. Andrea Petkovic (30),

Doubles — Quarter-finals Gisela Dulko, Argentina, and Flavia Pennetta

Singles — Quarter-finals

Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Stanislas Wawrinka (19), Switzerland, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3. Novak Djokovic (3), Serbia, def. Tomas

Nestor (2). Toronto, def Olga Govortsova Belarus, and Marcin Matkowski, Poland, 4-6, 6-4, 10-4 tiebreak.

JUNIOR GIRLS Singles – Second Round

WOMEN'S FOUR NATIONS

Yesterday's results At Beijing Canada 1 Sweden 0 At Chongqing, China U.S. 2 China 0

ASIAN CUP

SEMIFINALS

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

QUARTER-FINALS Schalke 3 Nuremberg 2 (OT)

ITALIAN CUP

Palermo 0 Parma 0 (Palermo wins 5-4 on penalty kicks)

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

AMERICAN LEAGUE
MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with
RIP Kevin Slowey on a one-year contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with
LHP Craig Breslow on a one-year contract.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Acquired RHP Frank
Frankisc and cash considerations from Texas
for C Mike Napoli.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP
Todd Wellemeyer on a minor league contract.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with
LHP Wandy Rodriguez on a three-year contract.
NEW YORK METS—Announced OF Jason Pridie
and RHP Tobi Stoner cleared waivers and were
sent outright to Ruffelo (II) sent outright to Buffalo (IL).

BASKETBALL

MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Signed G Garrett Temple to a 10-day contrac

FOOTBALL

CFL

HAMILTON TIGER-CATS—Re-signed LB Markeith Knowlton to a three-year contract. WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS—Signed K Justin Palardy and OL Chris Greaves to contract extensions.

NFL

ATLANTA FALCONS—Agreed to terms with LB Robert James on two-year contract. CAROLINA PANTHERS—Named Ray Brown assistant offensive line coach. CLEVELAND BROWNS—Named Chris Tabor

special teams coordinator. DENVER BRONCOS—Named Ron Milus secondary coach and Richard Smith linebackers

OAKLAND RAIDERS—Named Al Saunders offensive coordinator.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Named Brad Seely assistant head coach/special teams coordinator and Kevin Tolbert assistant strength and

conditioning coach. HOCKEY

N.Y. ISLANDERS—Suspended G Evgeni Nahokov for not reporting to the team after being claimed off waivers from the Detroit. OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled G Mike OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled G Mike Brodeur from Binghamton (AHL). SAN JOSE SHARKS—Recalled G Alex Stalock from Worcester (AHL).

LEAGUE OFFICE—Suspended Portland D Tim Conboy two games as a result of his actions in a Jan. 21 game at Worcester. CHICAGO WOLVES—Signed F Tim Miller.

SOCCER

PHILADELPHIA UNION-Waived G Brad NEW YORK RED BULL—Signed MF Matt Kassel.

LACROSSE

NLL

WEEK FOUR

WEEK FUNK
Friday's games
Philadelphia at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Buffalo at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Boston at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.
Washinoton at Minnesota, 8:30 p.

Washington at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.

Edmonton at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	34	10	.773	_
d-Miami	31	13	.705	3
d-Chicago	31	14	.689	31/2
Atlanta	29	16	.644	51/2
Orlando	29	16	.644	51/2
New York	23	21	.523	11
Philadelphia	19	25	.432	15
Charlotte	17	25	.405	16
Indiana	16	25	.390	161/2
Milwaukee	16	26	.381	17
Detroit	17	28	.378	171/2
Washington	13	31	.295	21
New Jersey	13	32	.289	211/2
Toronto	13	32	.289	211/2
Cleveland	8	37	178	261/-

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	w	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	38	7	.844	_
L.A. Lakers	32	13	.711	6
allas	29	15	.659	81/2
Oklahoma City	28	16	.636	91/2
ew Orleans	30	16	.652	81/2
tah	27	17	.614	101/2
enver	26	18	.591	111/2
ortland	25	21	.543	131/2
emphis	22	23	.489	16
noenix	20	23	.465	17
ouston	21	25	.457	171/2
olden State	19	25	.432	181/2
A. Clippers	17	27	.386	201/2
acramento	10	32	.238	261/2
innesota	10	34	.227	271/2
district and benchmark		L 6		at-

d — division leaders ranked in top four positi per conference regardless of winning percent Last night's results

u — unvision readers rainked in top four positiper conference regardless of winning percent
Last night's results
Boston 112 (Leveland 95
Dallas 112 L.A. Clippers 105
Denver 120 Washington 109
Charlotte at Sacramento
Utah at L.A. Lakers
Monday's results
Memphis 100 Toronto 98
Chicago 92 Miliwaukee 83
Detroit 103 Ortondo 96
Houston 129 Milmesota 125
New Jersey 103 Cleveland 101
New Orleans 91 Oklahoma City 89
New York 115 Washington 106
Philadelphia 105 Phoenix 95
Sacramento 96 Portland 81
San Antonio 113 Golden State 102
Tonight's games
All Times Eastern
Orlando at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia 107 Toronto, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia 107 Toronto, 7 p.m.
Denver at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Attanta at Miliwaukee, 8 p.m.
Clklahoma City at Milinesota, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Charlotte 4 Theonix, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Utah, 9:30 p.m.

SKIING

MEN'S WORLD CUP SLALOM

At Schladming, Austria Yesterday's results

At Schladming, Austria Yesterday's results (run times in parentheses) 1. Jean-Baptiste Grange, France, one minute 46.54 seconds (54.62-51.02); 2. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 1.46.85 (63.77-52.81); 3. Mattias Hargin, Sweden, 1.46.86 (63.77-52.81); 3. Mattias Hargin, Sweden, 1.47.14 (54.22-52.92); 4. Manfired Moelgg, Italy, 1.47.47 (64.92-52.55); 5. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 1.47.54 (54.42-53.12); 6. Axel Baeck, Sweden, 1.47.79 (55.48-52.12); 7. Jens Byggmanf, Sweden, 1.47.72 (65.45-51.27); 8. Cristian Deville, Italy, 1.47.83 (55.25-52.63); 9. Benjamin Raich, Austria, 1.47.84 (55.35-52.49); 10. Naoki Yuasa, Japan, 1.47.90 (56.12-51.78).
11. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 1.47.95 (55.77-52.18); 12. Manfred Pranger, Austria, 1.48.26 (55.03-52.33); 13. Nolan Kasper, U.S., 1.48.74 (57.08-51.66); 14. Michael Janky, Whistler, B.C., 1.48.89 (56.43-52.46); 15. Markus Vogel, Switzerland, 1.49.07 (57.07-52.00).

Also — 23. Trevor White, Calgary, 1:50.09 (56.93-53.16); 25. Paul Stutz, Banff, Alta.,

Disqualified After Second Run — Patrick Biggs.

1:50.54 (57.00-53.54).

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By comparison

Volvo V50

Base price: \$37,200 Roomy, attractive. well-priced wagon ups standard hp to 227 for 2011.



Subaru Outback Limited

Base price: \$37,400 Top-level 14 model offers lots of luxury content plus standard all-wheel-



Audi A4 Avant Base price: \$44,500 Stylish, functional and loaded with extras including four

wheel-drive





Engine performance

Providing the necessary grunt to haul passengers and their personal effects is a 2.4litre four-cylinder engine that makes 201 horsepower and 170 pound-feet of torque.

This is the same base powerplant that's used in the TSX sedan and performs with quiet efficiency at the lower end of the rev

However, when pushed hard, the 2.4 becomes a bit raucous, although not in any seriously upsetting way.

Fully-equipped

Buyers will definitely be able to speed

through the option list.
As with all Acuras, the TSX arrives with all the right up-level gear right out of the box: leather interior; power moonroof; dual-zone climate control; and a cool set of 17-inch alloy wheels.

A premium audio and navigation systems, power tailgate, 18-inch rims and an aero-style body kit are among the few extra-cost items

Carrying capacity

It's safe to assume everybody will appreciate the TSX Sport Wagon's carrying capacity, which is more than double that of the sedan, even with the rear seat in the locked-and-upright place.

When folded flat, the load surface extends some 70 inches giving the TSX nearly the same cargo volume as Acura's entry-level RDX sport ute.



Meet the latest member of the **Acura family**



Sometimes luxury and practicality fight for the same space, but there's plenty of both to go around when it comes to the 2011 TSX Sport Wagon.

It's Acura's first shot at marketing what has in the past been the exclusive domain of its Honda parent.

Technically, the Acura Sport Wagon is a Honda since it was previously launched in Japan and other countries around the

globe as the Accord Tourer. However for North America, Honda developed the homegrown Accord Crosstour hatchback that arrived for the 2010 model year with a standard V6 engine and available allwheel-drive.

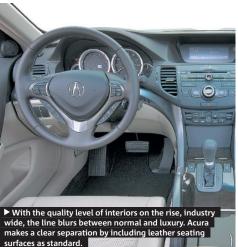
The impending arrival of the sharp-looking TSX Sport Wagon has likely turned Honda's product planners green with envy and has them wondering if they shouldn't have lobbied harder to get a wagon of their own after all.

Internal politics aside, the new TSX hauler is a smart-looking piece of work regardless of what brand bucket it falls into.

The Sport Wagon projects a certain sophisticated appearance that displays a strong kinship with the newly updated TSX sedan. The folks at Acura be-

lieve the wagon will appeal to young, affluent buyers, but there will likely be a knot of practical-minded empty-nesters as well as disaffected Honda Accord owners just itching for a test drive.

The Sport Wagon is ex-pected to list for about \$37,800, which is \$1,600 more than the base sedan with the automatic transmission. More significantly, the price estimate is only about \$1,300 more than the Honda Crosstour. That alone should encourage trade-ups to this practicalluxury model regardless of what name it goes by.





The Sport Wagon comes with a fourcylinder engine with no optional V6. Interestingly, a V6 is the standard engine in the Honda Crosstour, which is actually a little cheaper to start. An Acura spokesman said that the primary target audience for the wagon — young, urban, family types ranked fuel economy as having greater importance than raw horsepower and thrust.

TSX Wagon

What you should know about the 2011 Acura TSX Sport Wagon:

- Type: Four-door, frontwheel-drive, mid-size wag-
- Engine (hp): 2.4-litre DOHC four-cylinder (201).
- Transmission: Five-speed automatic
- Stats: L/100 km (city/hwy) 9.4/6.4 (est.).

12011 vehicles to qualified retal actomers the strenders. Some conditions apply. See partic ets. The following terms apply to TDF remoning 5. Appl. Ram detaleship with no turber obligations; Language, 2011 Jeep Gand Charcee Lared, deharges not included. Dealers may sell briles deharges not included. Dealers may sell briles r complete details. ††Customer Choice Financing for 36-, 48- and 60-month terms. (Different contract terms apply to Ally Credit Canada offers. See your dealer

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- Quadra-Trac I® 4-Wheel Drive System
- More than 45 Safety & Security Features

Jeep Grand Cherokee Overland shown.5







Uconnect[™] System with Optional Garmin GPS



Keyless Enter-N-Go

Jeep.ca/Offers



ARE WE GETTING DESENSITIZED TO HIGH GAS PRICES?





Gas prices have been creeping up all winter. As of writing this, the national average is hovering around \$1.12 per litre. Experts predict prices in spring will be even higher probably up to \$1.20 to \$1.30 per litre.

he spectre of continuously rising gas prices is scary, particularly if you're prone to apocalyptic thoughts and/or driving a 1972 Buick Estate Wagon. But according to Roger

McKnight, a petroleum analyst with En-Pro International, the fear of gas prices running out of control because of insatiable worldwide demand is not based in reality.

"There is lots of inventory," says McKnight.

In his opinion the current higher-than-normal prices are attributable to the current high-cost of crude oil — plus the actions of the oil companies.

"If they were just following the cost of crude, gas prices right now should only be about eight per cent higher than last winter. Right now we're about 15 or 16 per cent

He figures the extra spread is just the fuel companies jacking up their



ing to McKnight, is that the oil companies are not currently adding to their stock of gasoline invento-ries. Refineries typically run on a two-season schedule: heating oil and other products from May to September; gasoline from October to March. Usually they shut down refineries in mid to late February, for maintenance and for "change over" activities.

This year they've scheduled these down times for mid-January.

"I'm guessing they're

feeling gas inventories are too high," said McKnight. Which leads the rest of us to not guess why we are so cynical about fuel compa-

Another gas price expert is Jason Toews of GasBuddy.com, which helps you find the stations in your area with the lowest gas prices. Toews says the increasing optimism in the economy will also keep prices high through spring and beyond, adding that optimism translates to more driving, and more speculators driving up crude prices.

ing in the streets? Not like-

"We've become desensitized to high gas prices," says Toews. "A dollar a litre doesn't scare anybody any-

This sentiment is borne out by the vehicle sales charts. When gas prices spike, we no longer seem to run to smaller vehicles. We buy the type of vehicle we want, drive when we want, and just seem to grin and bear it at the

Is there a tipping point? A pump-price that will

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2007 Odyssey payment based on \$2900 down on 72 month term. 2008 Ridgeline payment based on \$2900 down on 84 month term

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Decade of pain

Average gas prices per litre (in cents).

Year/Average Price

2001 — 67.7 **2002** — 68.0 **2003** — 72.6

2004 **—** 81.5 2005 **-** 92.8 **2006** — 99.4

2007 — 103.8 **2008** — 116.3

2009 — 95.3 **2010** — 102.8 **2011** — 112.1

GASBIIDDY.COM

make us change our driving and/or purchasing behaviours? McKnight says Americans freak out when their gas hits four dollars a gallon, but wasn't sure what it would take to shock Canadians. Toews thinks \$1.60 to \$1.70 a litre would do the trick.

I don't think Bruce Cockburn was thinking about gas prices when he penned the lyrics, "The trouble with normal is it always gets worse." But he might as well have been.

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2008 Civic payment based on \$1300 down on 84 month term.

Crossword

12

15

18

33

36

43 44

50

54

26 25

27

39 40

1 Writer Kingsley 5 Petrol

8 Spaces

12 Swag

13 Have bills

14 Far-related

15 One present 17 Maestro Klempere

18 Barbershop reques

19 Humble

21 Tend texts 24 Foolish one

25 Read, in a way 28 Lowers the lights

30 Definite article

33 Mr. Sajak 34 Expense record

35 A billion years

36 Illustrations 37 Addict

38 Probability

39 Inquire 41 Leeway

43 Hidden away 46 Got wind of

50 Wan 51 Lawye

54 Rind

55 William Tell's home 56 Color quality

57 Uncomplicated

58 "See ya"

59 Picnic invaders

1 "Oh woel"

2 Wool eater 3 Tittle

4 Spielberg or Tyle

5 Deity

6 Shock and -

7 Appear

8 Merchandise 9 Swore (to)

10 Peach stones 11 Highlander

16 Homer's neighbor

20 Brewer's oven 22 Mid-month date 23 River through

Rome 25 Resort

26 Automobile 27 Ties on

29 Muralist Joan

31 Scuttle 32 Type measures

34 Member of the no-

38 Conspiracy of silence 40 As an introvert

13

22 23

28

45

51 52 53

55

58

41

16

34

37

would

42 Discoverer's call 43 Hatteras, for one

44 On the briny 45 Smear

47 In due time 48 Landlord's due

49 Turns blue? 52 Give it a go

53 Dead heat

Sudoku

5	1		8			6	9
3	6		7	9	4		
		7		1			8
4					2	7	
6			2	3			4
	2	3					6
8			9		5		
		9	6	7		3	2
2	7			8		9	1

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

look at the weather

THURSDAY

Min 2° Max 10°

4	7	3	1	9	5	8	2	6
6	5	1	2	4	8	7	9	3
2	8	9	3	7	6	4	5	1
5	3	8	7	6	1	2	4	9
7	1	2	4	3	9	5	6	8
9	6	4	8	5	2	1	3	7
1	9	7	6	2	4	3	8	5
8	2	6	5	1	3	9	7	4
3	4	5	9	8	7	6	1	2

FRIDAY

2 Max -3°

Min -6°

Send a

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

I love you mark. You and the kids mean everything to me. Xoxox TERRI

Hey Karen. I know you had a bad day, and even though you took it out on me, I just wanted to let you know you're still super duper special to me. LOVE WALRUS

My Dearest Yetta! Happy 21st Birthday! Wish you have a fruitful university life! Wish you be happy every day and every night! No matters how far we are, you are always in my heart! WITH LOVE, TOM CHAN

"Happy Birthday Shmoopsy Poo!! I can't believe we've been together for 10 years, and you still make me laugh just as much as you did when we first met! Thanks for always bringing me crossword nubbins, I knew there was a reason I married you:) wuv you, pookie

Today's horoscope

T Aries March 21-April 20 You will get the proverbial offer you cannot refuse, today. But your sixth sense will warn you that it's too good to be true.

¥ Taurus Anril 21-May 21

Think of what you are about to do as an investment in the future rather than as something you cannot afford. Saturn will bring you an opportunity to move up in the world, but it will cost you something, too.

II Gemini May 22-June 21

Some people complain that fate is unkind, but you know that what you get out of life depends on what you put in. Saturn's retrograde move today is to be welcomed. It reminds you that the more you give the more you get.

Gancer June 22-July 22 Use

Don't waste it on trivial things. And don't listen to what other people say. Listen only to your own conscience. Everything else should be excluded.

Ω Leo July 23-Aug.23 Take what happens today as a challenge to inspire you to do more and curs for a reason, so there is no need to feel hard done by.

TV Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 If you make a mistake of some kind today, you must admit it immediately. Don't try to pretend that it wasn't you because there are critical eyes watching your every move. It's no big deal: Say sorry and move on

your energy wisely today.

rather than as a setback. Use it do better. Everything in life oc-

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

← Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 This is one of the luckiest times of the year for you, but because planet Saturn turns retrograde today there is a danger you might take your good fortune for granted. Don't.

14

17

38

56

59

➤ Yesterday's answer

30 31 32

35

47 48

19 20

29

24

42

46

M Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Don't sit back and let the changes that are now taking place just happen. You are a Scorpio, and that means you don't give in when the going gets tough. Fight back.

Nov. 23-Dec. 21 The world is still an amazing and positive place, no matter what the doom mongers might say. Stop worrving about the future and create a better tomorrow for yourself — starting today.

り Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

TODAY

Max 7°

Min -3°

You get what you deserve. As Saturn begins one of its retrograde phases, it may be tempting to believe that you have gained more than you should. But don't be so sure.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 So much is possible for you

now, but you are still holding back. Why? As limitations planet Saturn turns retrograde today, the way ahead of you is clear of obstacles. Move!

H Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Any bad feelings that might remain between you and someone you have to deal with on a daily basis must be cleared up once and for all. You can't go on eyeing each other with suspicion. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist "I get to spread the word

on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with

our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". WEEKDAYS 6AM

"Don't mesh with us." RYLAN CONRAD

You WIN! write it! Write a funny cap

tion for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro





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